Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 27 (cancelled)

28. (currently amended)   A method for providing an equipment area network (EAN) for each one or more pieces of equipment or devices, wherein for each local piece of equipment the method comprises the steps of:

     (A) connecting a local controller to the piece of equipment;

     (B) connecting a local Web server to said controller;

     (C) connecting a local router between said Web server and a computer network, for providing isolation therebetween while allowing selective communication therebetween;

     (D) assigning a unique network address to said router for devices outside the EAN;

     (E) connecting a local HMI Web browser to said router;

     (F) configuring said router to receive requests from Web browsers both local and remote to said EAN;

     (G) responding to a request from a Web browser by having said router check the source network address of the requesting <u>Web</u> browser;

     (H) determining in response to a requesting local Web browser the <u>a</u> destination network address it is requesting;

     (I) configuring said router to respond to [[a]] <u>the</u> destination network address for <u>of</u> a remote Web server by using network address translation (NAT) to translate the associated source network address <u>of the requesting local Web browser</u>;

     (J) forwarding <u>the request</u> via said router to said remote Web server an answer to the request;

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(K) receiving via said router a response from said remote Web server that it received the ~~answer~~ request; and

(L) forwarding the response to the ~~associated~~ said local Web browser of said EAN.

29. (currently amended)   The method of claim 28, further including after step (G) the steps of:

(M) determining in response to a requesting remote Web browser the destination network address it is requesting;

(N) ignoring the request in response to the destination network address being for a remote Web server;

(O) sending the request to ~~the~~ an associated local Web server in response to the destination network address being that of ~~another~~ the associated local Web server;

(P) operating the associated local Web server to check the source network address of the Web browser making the request;

(Q) responding to the request via the associated ~~said~~ local Web server using remote privileges if the source network address is that of a remote Web browser; and

(R) forwarding a response via ~~the~~ an associated ~~said~~ local router to the requesting remote Web browser.

30. (currently amended)   The method of claim 29, further including after step (P) and before step (Q) the step of: (S) authenticating via the associated ~~said~~ local Web server the password of the requesting remote Web browser.

31. (currently amended)   The method of claim 29, further including after step (P) the steps of:

(T) responding to the request via the associated ~~said~~ local Web server using local privileges if the source network address is that of a requesting local Web browser; and

(U) forwarding a response via ~~the~~ an associated ~~said~~ local router to the requesting local Web browser.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim ~~29~~ 31, further including after step (P) and before step (T) the step of: (V) authenticating via the associated ~~said~~ local Web server the password of the requesting local Web browser.